

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): ~~An~~ A sterile adhesive applicator for applying medical adhesives to an ear comprising:

a body having:

a handle having a terminus;

a trigger pivotally connected to the handle through a joint which allows  
the trigger to pivot about the joint when the trigger is squeezed;

a reservoir having a first end and a second end;

where the reservoir is contained entirely within the body;

where the reservoir is fixed to the body;

a dispensing mechanism operatively connected at one end to the trigger  
and at the other end to the reservoir;

a catheter or cannula fluidly connected to the second end of the reservoir  
through which the adhesive is expressed;

and ~~an~~ a sterile otologic adhesive contained in the reservoir.

Claim 2 (original) The applicator of claim 1 wherein the handle comprises a ring at the terminus sized to allow a finger or a thumb to be placed in the ring.

Claim 3 (original) The applicator of claim 1 wherein the reservoir is cylindrical and wherein the dispensing mechanism comprises:  
a cylindrical plunger located at least partially in the reservoir and dimensioned so that the outer diameter of the plunger is approximately equal to the inner

diameter of the reservoir;

a rod having a first end attached to the trigger and a second end attached to the plunger, the rod capable of moving the plunger into and out of the reservoir as the trigger is moved around the joint.

Claim 4 (original) The applicator of claim 3 wherein dispensing mechanism is a ratchet mechanism comprising a series of teeth or grooves on a portion of the rod and a process on the upper end of the trigger that engages the teeth or groove whereby movement of the trigger causes the process to engage a tooth or groove and move it a finite, predetermined distance when the trigger is pulled or dispensed.

Claim 5 (original) The applicator of claim 1 wherein the dispensing mechanism is a ratchet mechanism.

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (original) The applicator of claim 1 wherein the reservoir is made of a material that is transparent or translucent.

Claim 10 (original) The applicator of claim 1 wherein the cannula or catheter is permanently affixed to the reservoir.

Claim 11 (original) The applicator of claim 1 wherein the cannula or catheter is removably attached to the reservoir.

Claim 12 (original) The applicator of claim 11 wherein the cannula or catheter is removably attached to the reservoir by means selected from the group consisting of screw fitting, compression fitting ~~or~~ and luer-lock fitting.

Claim 13 (original) the applicator of claim 1 wherein the cannula or catheter is preferably between about 10 to 50 gauge.

Claim 14 (original) The applicator of claim 13 wherein the cannula or catheter is more preferably about 25 gauge.

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended) The applicator of claim 1 wherein the otologic adhesive is a sterile cyanoacrylate adhesive.

Claim 17 (currently amended) The applicator of claim 1 wherein the otologic adhesive is a sterile fibrin-based adhesive.

Claim 18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (previously presented) The applicator of claim 1 wherein the trigger is pivotable relative to the handle from a maximum spacing position to a minimum spacing position, and further wherein the dispensing mechanism and the reservoir are configured to dispense a volume of the otologic adhesive from the reservoir in the range of 5-10  $\mu$ l upon complete movement of the trigger from the maximum spacing position to the minimum spacing position.

Claim 21 (canceled)